

leadership of Principal Brian Abdallah and Vice-Principal Bryant Montigny, has submitted to me a Proclamation that epitomizes the direction that education and standards of excellence should follow across the nation. Mary E. Wells Junior High School attained the privilege and honor of being nominated by the Massachusetts Department of Education as a Blue Ribbon School for the 1997–1998 school year. This distinction gives credence to the diligence and dedication of the teaching staff at Wells and the positive outcomes that can result when challenging standards and curriculum exist and teaching and active learning partnerships are pursued.

#### PROCLAMATION

*Whereas*, middle level education has a special and unique function in the nation's education system; and

*Whereas*, young adolescents are undergoing dramatic physical, social, emotional and intellectual growth and are especially vulnerable; and

*Whereas*, the habits and values established during early adolescence have critical, life-long influence; and

*Whereas*, this influence affects the future health and welfare of our nation; and

*Whereas*, an adequate public understanding of the distinctive mission of the middle level school is necessary for that mission to succeed; and

*Whereas*, it is incumbent upon all of us in education and in the larger community to have high expectations for all students, educators, schools, parents, and community members for middle school students to achieve and develop to their fullest potential;

*Therefore be it Resolved*, that the month of March 1998 be declared National Middle Level Education Month; and is being celebrated at Mary E. Wells Junior High School in Southbridge, Massachusetts.

*Resolved*, that the public be afforded special opportunities to visit middle schools and participate in programs that focus on the nature of young adolescents, celebrate the ways in which our nation's schools respond to their needs and to the needs of the nation; and *Resolved*, that the public be encouraged to commit to working with schools to provide the highest standard of schooling and highest expectations for all adolescents and adults working with them.

#### TRIBUTE TO NEW YORK SENATOR NORMAN J. LEVY (1931–1998)

##### HON. RICK LAZIO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 3, 1998*

Mr. LAZIO of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise to respectfully acknowledge the passing of New York State Senator Norman J. Levy on Saturday, February 7, 1998.

True heroes do not come around very often. Heroes take chances, they demonstrate cour-

age, and they fight for those who are in need. Senator Levy was such a hero, a champion for Long Island and New York. He was an extraordinary example of a public leader.

I am fortunate to have known Senator Levy for many years and I very much admired him for his moral compass, dedication to public service, and his ability to work for his constituents. Senator Levy was a remarkable individual who lived his life with dignity and grace, earning the respect of the Long Island community. He dedicated his life to making this same community a safer and more enjoyable place to live and work.

Senator Levy has a long and distinguished career serving the State of New York, beginning in the Nassau County District Attorney's office and then serving in the New York State Senate since 1970. In the State Senate, he developed and fought to pass innovative legislation. Among his many achievements, Senator Levy sponsored the first mandatory seat-belt law, ensuring that drivers and passengers are safe on New York roads. He was also an active proponent for special education and had an open and direct relationship with teachers and parents.

Not only did Senator Levy work on behalf of the residents of New York State in the State Legislature, but he was also very active in many community organizations and charities.

For his many personal achievements and most importantly for his friendship, I will fondly remember New York State Senator Norman Levy and continue to look to him as one of the best examples of a dedicated and conscientious public servant. I am proud to have known such an extraordinary individual.

With Senator Levy's passing the people of Long Island and New York have lost a great friend.

#### TRIBUTE TO NEW YORK SENATOR NORMAN J. LEVY (1931–1998)

##### HON. PETER T. KING

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 3, 1998*

Mr. KING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor one of New York's greatest statesmen, Senator Norman Levy. Norm Levy passed away last month, after a long illness. He will be missed.

Norm Levy was one of the giants of the New York State Legislature. He was a dominant presence in the Senate and was admired and respected by members of both parties. As Chairman of the Transportation Committee, he was instrumental in directing policy on issues affecting the lives of all New Yorkers.

Norm Levy was also a strong voice for Long Island in Albany. He was unmatched in seeing to it that our region's concerns were addressed by the state government.

Norm Levy's absence leaves a great void in Long Island politics. He was an outstanding legislator, a sharp-minded and insightful politician, and unlike many people in our business, a truly nice guy. I was always proud to call him my friend.

The people of Long Island and all of New York State will be poorer for his loss.

#### TRIBUTE TO NEW YORK SENATOR NORMAN J. LEVY (1931–1998)

##### HON. CAROLYN MCCARTHY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 3, 1998*

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I wish to join my colleagues from Long Island in honoring the accomplishments of a distinguished public servant, State Senator Norman J. Levy. Senator Levy recently passed away, leaving behind a strong legacy of commitment and dedication to the State of New York and Long Island in particular.

Norman J. Levy was well known and respected by the people of Nassau County. He was born on January 24, 1931 in Rockville Center, New York and attended elementary school in Lynbrook and Malverne. After receiving degrees from Bucknell University and Brooklyn Law School, Mr. Levy began his career of service to the American people by joining the U.S. Army as a Chief Legal Clerk to the Army Staff Judge Advocate from 1954 to 1956.

In 1958, Norman Levy became the first law intern of the Nassau County District Attorney's office and moved-up to become Assistant District Attorney of Nassau County in 1959. In 1962, he was appointed Chief of the Nassau County Rackets Bureau where he fought organized crime until being elected to the New York Senate in 1970.

While representing the people of Nassau County in the Senate, Senator Levy distinguished himself as a true leader. He served as Chairman of the Committee on Labor and later as Chairman of the Committee on Transportation. He also served as Chairman of the Senate Task Force on Drunk Driving. Chairman Levy became a nationally recognized advocate for safety by sponsoring anti-DWI legislation and highway safety laws, including our nation's first mandatory seat-belt law.

Mr. Speaker, we will miss Senator Levy. And we will remember him fondly as a champion in the fight for safety and the fight against crime. Through his dedication and commitment, he made Long Island, and the whole State of New York, a safer and better place for our families.